supplies of quinine to malnad dispensaries ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—We can do it if there is necessity.

Mr. M. SUBBAIYA.—Is it a fact that a fee of one anna per day is levied for each out-patient in the city hospitals ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—Yes.

Mr. M. SUBBAIYA.—What is the additional convenience created for out-patients as a result of that extra levy?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—It is intended to limit the rush in bigger hospitals and to enable the doctors there to devote more time to serious cases.

Mr. M. SUBBAIYA.—Would it not work as a hardship in the case of poor people who cannot afford to pay it ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—If they come with a reference from the nearest dispensary, they will receive attention in the bigger hospitals without payment.

Mr. M. SUBBAIYA.—But does it not mean lot of trouble to the poor people ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—It is an experimental measure to be tried for three months. We shall watch how it works before effecting any changes.

Mr. M. SUBBAIYA.—But is it the idea that a larger number should not derive benefit from the major hospitals ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—No, the idea is that for minor ailments, the patients might go to the smaller dispensaries.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA.—What is the income derived so far from this new levy ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—I have not yet received reports on that question.

Mr. A. VENKATESAIYA.—Is there any proportion fixed in which indigenous and foreign drugs have to be supplied to dispensaries ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—No, and even if it is fixed, the proportion is not strictly adhered to.

Mr. A. VENKATESAIYA.—Are the Medical Stores insisting that all indents must come through the District Medical Officer concerned ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—Yes.

Mr. A. VENKATESAIYA.—What should the dispensaries do if the District Medical Officer disallows any part of the indent ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—If the member means that any District Medical Officer has acted arbitrarily, he is welcome to give particulars, in which case necessary inquiries will be made.

Mr. A. VENKATESAIYA.—Have any instructions been issued to the effect that all prescriptions must have reference to the actual supplies available in the Stores and not be strictly guided by the recognised pharmacopœia ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—No.

Mr. A. VENKATESAIYA.—If any such instructions have been issued, will the Senior Surgeon be pleased to examine them ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—Certainly.

Mr. A. VENKATESAIYA.—If the average attendance in any particular hospital or dispensary is larger than in the previous year and if, therefore increased supplies are asked for, what is the justification for disallowing extra indents ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—I may tell the member straightway that I have inspected almost all the hospitals and dispensaries and I am satisfied that indents are not being arbitrarily disallowed.

Mr. A. VENKATESAIYA.—Are you aware that the Mysore City Municipal Council recently discussed this question and resolved that the administration of some of the dispensaries be taken over by the municipality on account of the trouble about supplies of medicine ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—Yes, but the municipal council appears to be labouring under some misapprehension.

Mr. T. V. NARASINGAPPA.—Have not any of the Boards of Visitors complained to the department about inadequate supply of medicines ?

Mr. B. K. NARAYANA RAO.—No such complaints have been received by me.

Road Cess and Vehicle Tax Collections.

Q.—10. Mr. A. G. MUDDARACHAPPA (Bowringpet Municipality).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the amount of Road Cess collected in respect of Buses, Lorries and Cabs (Taxies);

(*b*) the amount of tax collected on the seating capacity of buses;

(*c*) the amount estimated by Government payable to several municipalities out of taxes recovered in respect of buses used for public conveyance;

(*d*) the names of such municipalities;

(*e*) whether they are paying any amount from the cesses collected to the municipalities;

(*f*) if so, the amount paid;

(*g*) the names of such municipalities;

(*h*) if not, whether it has come to their notice that the municipalities are suffering from paucity of funds?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. J. Appaji Gowda).**—

(*a*) The Act provides for the levy of service tax, mileage cess and road tax. The amount collected under these heads during 1937-38 was as follows:—

		Rs.
Service Tax	...	2,96,048
Mileage Cess	...	3,63,869
Road Tax	...	2,16,795

(*b*) Rs. 2,83,688 during 1937-38.

(*c*) The amount apportioned to the municipalities during 1936-37 for which year the figures are available is Rs. 39,049.

(*d*) The City Municipalities of Mysore and Bangalore.

(*e*) If by cesses it is meant mileage cess, the answer is in the affirmative.

(*f*) Rs. 10,485 for 1936-37.

(*g*) The City Municipalities of Mysore and Bangalore.

(*h*) See reply to (*c*).

Mr. B. SRINIVASA RAO.—Is the K. G. F. Sanitary Board getting any share of the road cess collections?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—No.

Mr. B. SRINIVASA RAO.—What then is the compensation to the Sanitary Board for the damage caused to the roads by lorries plying in the Sanitary Board area?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—The Sanitary Board gets a share of the vehicle tax collections.

Mr. B. SRINIVASA RAO.—Is mileage cess being levied on lorries?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—No.

Mr. B. SRINIVASA RAO.—As the former Deputy Commissioner of Kolar, are you not aware of the damage caused by lorries particularly in the case of the K.G.F.—Kyasamballi Road?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—Yes. The Committee appointed to examine the finances of the District Boards has made some recommendations on the question of apportionment of excess collections after the Mysore Road Traffic and Taxes Act came into operation to local fund roads and these are under consideration.

Mr. K. L. NANJAPPA NADIG.—Only the city municipalities of Bangalore and Mysore are now getting a share of the road cess collections. Is similar treatment not called for in the case of other local bodies whose roads are also being made use of by buses and lorries?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—According to existing orders, the concession has been extended only to the city municipalities.

Mr. K. L. NANJAPPA NADIG.—What is the reason for such invidious treatment? Are not the other municipalities also paying their quota for road maintenance?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—Their quota is not appreciable.

Mr. K. L. NANJAPPA NADIG.—In that case, let them be given a nominal share of the collections.

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—Government will consider the suggestion.

Mr. K. VENKATARAMIAH.—Will the municipalities get a share of the tax collected on the seating capacity of buses as a permanent measure?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—The apportionment is made only to city municipalities and that year by year.

Mr. K. VENKATARAMIAH.—Will the Traffic Board consider the question of making this a permanent arrangement?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—The question of apportioning the collections will be considered each year.

Mr. K. VENKATARAMIAH.—Motor cars have been exempted from the levy of municipal tolls and this has resulted in loss of revenue to all the municipalities. In this view, will not the municipalities be entitled to a share of the road cess collections ?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—The municipalities are compensated for the loss of the vehicle tax collected on motor cars.

Mr. K. VENKATARAMIAH.—Even that is not a permanent measure. Is it not desirable therefore to show to the municipalities a source of regular income at least for a period of 3 to 5 years at a time ?

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—The income derived by the municipalities for 3 years prior to 1935 was taken into consideration before the orders now in force were passed, under which the municipalities continue to get the average income which they were formerly getting.

Mr. K. VENKATARAMIAH.—But when the present orders were passed, only the vehicle tax was taken into consideration and not the income from tolls.

Mr. J. APPAJI GOWDA.—This was done according to rules.

Mr. K. VENKATARAMIAH.—Roads falling within the boundaries of District Boards are not at all maintained by the Public Works Department and even where they are so maintained, the maintenance is not done satisfactorily.

Mr. PRESIDENT.—Arrangements will be made whereby the Public Works Department will attend to the maintenance of all provincial roads within the jurisdiction of both municipalities and district boards and arrangements will also be made for the tarring of all such roads with a view to preventing dust nuisance.

Mr. K. L. NANJAPPA NADIG.—Will the municipalities and district boards be called upon to contribute a portion of the cost of such maintenance and tarring ?

Mr. PRESIDENT.—No.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY.—Formerly, some municipalities were deriving the benefit of the vehicle tax and, counting upon that income, they entered into certain commitments. Consequent upon the passing of the Road Traffic Act, the municipalities have been suddenly deprived of that income and they are now unable to make both ends meet.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau).—May I know what the commitments are which the municipalities have entered into counting upon tolls on motor vehicles ?

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY.—For instance, the Malur Town Municipality undertook the lighting and water supply schemes depending upon the income from vehicle tax.

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU.—The income from tolls ought not to be diverted for such general purposes but should be used only for roads.

Mr. GURUSWAMI GOWDA.—As many as 36 buses are using the road within the jurisdiction of Hoskote Municipality and yet, for repairing the road, the municipality has been called upon to pay a contribution.

Mr. PRESIDENT.—As I have already stated, Municipalities and District Boards will not be expected to bear any portion of the cost of maintenance of provincial roads passing through their limits.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—BILLS.

I. General Principles of the Bill to amend the Mysore State Life Insurance Act, 1917.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. A. N. Raghavachar) explained the general principles of the bill as follows :—

The present title of the Insurance Department, *viz.*, " Mysore State Life Insurance Committee, " does not make it clear that it is a Government concern. It has been found desirable to change the name to " The Mysore Government Life Insurance Department. " The change necessitates verbal amendments to the Mysore State Life Insurance Act, 1917. It is accordingly proposed to amend the Act.

The general principles of the bill were accepted.